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# **Pankaj Oudhia's Notes on Pittosporum napaulense (DC.) Rehder & E.H. Wilson [Kirtikar, Kanhoba Ranchoddas, and Baman Das Basu. "Indian Medicinal Plants." Indian Medicinal Plants. (1918)].**

- Posted by [Pankaj Oudhia](#) on May 15, 2014 at 5:12
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## Pankaj Oudhia

### Introduction

**Based on Ethnobotanical surveys since year 1990 in different parts of India Pankaj Oudhia has documented vital information about Medicinal Plants mentioned in the famous publication by Kirtikar and Basu (1918). Through this research document Pankaj Oudhia has tried to present original document with additional notes. For complete paper with pictures, Interactive Tables, Video and Audio clips please visit [pankajoudhia.com](http://pankajoudhia.com)**

For original publication by Kirtikar and Basu (1918) please visit <https://archive.org/details/indianmedicinalp01kirt>

111. *Pittosporum floribundum*, W. and A.

H.F.B.I., I. 199.

Syn. : — *Celastrus verticillata*, Eoxb. 209.

Vern. :— Tibilti (Nepal) ; Bongzam (Lepcha) ; Yekdi ;

Yekadi (Bomb.) ; Vehkali ; Vikhari ; Vehyenti ; yekadi (Mar.).

Habitat: — Subtropical Himalaya, from Sikkim to Garwhal.

Khasia hills and Mishmi ; Western Peninsula, Concan to the Nilgiri.

A small evergreen tree, very handsome. "Bark very thin, light greenish-grey, with very prominent horizontal lenticels, up to nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  in, long. Wood white, moderately hard, close-grained. Pores small, often sub-divided or in strings, scanty or irregularly distributed. Medullary rays fine to moderately broad" (Gamble). Branches often unbelled, glabrous. Leaves pale beneath, margin waved, 4-6 in. (Brandis). 2-8 by  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 3 in. (H. /. and Th.), glabrous, shining, coriaceous, acute or acuminate, lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate. Flowers yellow, numerous, small, pubescent, in much-branched, terminal, compound, dense corymbs, sometimes leafy below; branches 1-3 in., spreading, glabrous or pubescent ; sepals ovate, obtuse or acute, subciliate. Petals erect, claws connivent. Stamens

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5, erect ; anthers 2-celled, introrse, bursting by slits. Style glabrous. Ovary pubescent, sessile, incompletely 2-3-celled. Ovules 2 or more on each placenta. Capsule glabrous, | in. diam.; pisiform, woody 2-rarely 3-valved ; valves coriaceous, placentiform in the middle. Seeds 1-4, occasionally numerous, smooth, embedded in a pulp.

Uses: — The bark is bitter and aromatic, and is said by natives of the Western Ghats to possess narcotic properties. It is used in doses of 5 to 10 grs. as a febrifuge, and in doses of 50 grs., is believed to be a specific for snake poisoning ; 5 to 10 grain doses of the dried bark given with benefit in chronic bronchitis. It is a good expectorant, but in one or two cases in which it was tried in Bombay, it gave rise to dysenteric diarrhoea (Pharmaco. Indica).

The late M. O. Periera of Bandra, an Assistant in the Bombay Medical Stores, used to prepare a tincture of the bitter bark. In exhibiting a specimen of the Tincture at the Therapeutical Section of the International Medical Congress of

Australasia, held in Melbourne in January 1889, Surgeon Major

K. R. Kirtikar said thus :— " The tincture contains a volatile oil which is said to act as an antiseptic and stimulant to the mucous membrane of the bronchi. The dose of the tincture is a drachm and a half, thrice daily in water or honey."

(Seep. 948, Proceedings of the Second Session of the x^australa-sia CongressJ

In Travancore, half-a-teaspoonful doses are given internally in leprous affections, and the oil beaten up with the kernels and shells of castor oil seeds, is used as a remedy for itch, (Dymock.)

<iframe width="420" height="315" src="//www.youtube.com/embed/4cSPpEga\_bw" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>

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In physiological action, the oil is alterative, tonic, and a local stimulant, and appears also to have a specific effect on certain skin diseases. It has been recommended for trial as a local application in rheumatism, leprosy, sprains and bruises, scia-tica, chest affections and phthisis, ophthalmia, and the various

forms of skin diseases. Internally it may be prescribed in doses of from 15 minims to 2 drachms in cases of leprosy, various forms of cutaneous disease, secondary syphilis and

N. O. POLYGALACE<sup>E</sup>. 131

chronic rheumatism. It must, however, be employed with caution, as in certain cases it is said to act as a gastro-intestinal irritant, producing vomiting and purging (Watt.)

**[Pankaj Oudhia's Comment: *Through Ethnobotanical surveys I have collected information about over 40,000 Herbal Formulations for Diabetes complications in which Pittosporum bark is added as primary, secondary, tertiary and nonary ingredients. In over 25000 Formulations for Diabetes complications Pittosporum bark and roots mixed in different proportion are used. In treatment of respiratory diseases the Traditional Healers use it after purification. The purification process takes 1 to 7 days. In over 23000 Herbal Formulations for respiratory diseases Pittosporum parts are added as quaternary ingredient. In treatment of different types of wound Pittosporum is added in over 55000 Formulations in form of different types of ingredients. Please see Tables Pitto-1 to Pitto-350 for details.***

**E-documents on Pittosporum**

<http://ecoport.org/ep?SearchType=earticleList&Author=oudhia&...>

## Citation

Oudhia, Pankaj (2013). Pankaj Oudhia's Notes on Pittosporum napaulense (DC.) Rehder & E.H. Wilson [Kirtikar, Kanhoba Ranchoddas, and Baman Das Basu. "Indian Medicinal Plants." *Indian Medicinal Plants*. (1918)]. [www.pankajoudhia.com](http://www.pankajoudhia.com)

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